Red Water Pond Road Community

History through Pictures
Past and Present of the Red House People
April 2012, revised September 2012

Compiled by Red Water Pond Road Community Association
And Southwest Research and Information Center
Location Map for
Red Water Pond Community Area
Coyote Canyon Chapter, Navajo Nation
Contemporary Photos of Traditional Cultural Properties and Cultural Resource Sites in Red Water Pond Community

Cornfield southeast of Henio home with Red Point Mesa in background.
Jack and Elsie Hood home built by Billy Duncan in the 1930s and moved to its presentation location in 1960s
Location of the old Yazzie’s Hogan by Pipeline Road, circa 19xx
Cornfield seen from east side of Henio’s home. This cornfield has been cultivated since the 1940s.
Petroglyphs: Sheepherder Inscription of 7/3/68
Standing Black Tree Mesa (Tsí'n Łizhin Ei’aaht) traditional use area

Current (2012) Red Water Pond Community area

Communities neighboring Red Water Pond Road Community

Pipeline Road Community area
Standing Black Tree Mesa (Tsin Łizhin Ei’aaah) — traditional family land 2 miles north of Red Water Pond Community

Existing hogan

Existing building

Common area with arbor; routinely used by family
Stone remnants of Annie’s *hooghan* on Standing Black Tree Mesa
Annie’s old stone house, Standing Black Tree Mesa
The old Duncan Family’s *hooghan* and summer camp
Pieces of Duncan’s old hooghan
Sheep corral on Standing Black Tree Mesa
Old home site on Standing Black Tree Mesa; occupied circa early 1900s
Duncan’s sweat lodge on Standing Black Tree Mesa summer camp
Third *hooghan* at Standing Black Tree Mesa summer camp
Willettio’s *hooghan* on Standing Black Tree Mesa
Family picnic ground on Standing Black Tree Mesa

This site has been used since the 1940s and continues to be used regularly for family gatherings.
Annual Picnic on *Tsin Łizhin Ei’aah*

“Treat the earth well: it was not given to you by your parents, it was loaned to you by your children. We do not inherit the Earth from our Ancestors, we borrow it from our Children.”
Sheepherders *hooghan* at Red Hill looking north toward Coyote Canyon Chapter
Grandparents
Picture of Jackie/Jean before the mining began.....

By the way Happy Birthday Jean!
1930s-1940s

Toddler Becky and Bennie Duncan with flock on Standing Black Tree Mesa
Residents have livestock documentation dating back at least to 1925.
View in background is future site of Kerr-McGee Mine
1950s-1960s

Edith: Only 4-year-old with a blanket and car

Edith, Art, Berth
1970-80s

Art Hood and nieces, late-80s; KM Mine waste in background

Jack Hood, 1985; KM Mine waste in background

Late 70s: Hood children play in shadow of Kerr-McGee/Quivira Church Rock I Mine
Uranium Mining Era, 1969-1986

Top: United Nuclear Corp. Northeast Church Rock Mine (left, right); NECR Mine water ponds (middle), discharge to north. Bottom: Kerr-McGee Mine under development (left), construction crew (middle), Red Water Pond Road to KM Mine
Ancestral homeland for Red Water Pond Road area families; preferred area for new housing development

Possible locations for permanent community center

Current (2012) Red Water Pond Road Community Area

Kerr-McGee/Quivira Churchrock I and IE Mine

United Nuclear Corp. (GE) Northeast Church Rock Mine

United Nuclear Corp. (GE) Church Rock Uranium Mill

United Nuclear Corp. (GE) Uranium Mill Tailings Disposal Area (NPL Site)
Church Rock Uranium Mill Tailings Spill July 16, 1979*
(*remains the largest release of radioactive wastes, by volume, in US history)

United Nuclear Corp. Uranium Mill Tailings Dam, July 16, 1979

Dam breach location, July 17, 1979

Livestock tracks in Puerco River downstream of spill, July 17, 1979

NMEID Sampling in Puerco R. after spill

Community leaders Larry J. King (L) and Robinson Kelly addressed long-term impacts of spill in 2009.

Photos courtesy of Southwest Research and Information Center, New Mexico Environmental Improvement Division, Albuquerque Journal.
The Puerco River is a major tributary of the Little Colorado River. Recent population growth and changing lifestyles have created an increased demand for water in the basin.
Mine water discharges from NECR Mine and Church Rock I mine released more radioactivity to Puerco River system over a 20-year period than in the 1979 tailings spill.

UNC mill, mill tailings facility

Mine waste dump

Mine site outline is general, not specific

Residences

Red Water Pond Road Area, Coyote Canyon Chapter, 2007

Photo courtesy of Navajo Nation EPA
Before and During
2009-2010 Interim Removal Action

2003 North face of mine waste dump at NN boundary

2005 before removal

2009 North face of mine waste dump after grading

2009 during removal
2009-2011: RWPRCA Sponsors Uranium Legacy Remembrance and Action Day
Eastern Drainage Area, 2012

Eastern Drainage Removal Area, looking east

Quivira Mine Dump

Eastern Drainage Removal Area

Sept. 2011 runoff from IRA heading east (toward camera) on South RWPR
Flash Flooding in August 2012

Photos by Teracita Keyanna
Panoramic View of Red Water Pond Community

February 3, 2012

Looking SE across Kerr-McGee/Quirivia Mine & Eastern Drainage Area

Eastern Drainage Removal Area, mid-2012

Soil removal area and revegetation area, 2007 and 2009

Quivira Mine dump (recontoured 2011)

Hood brick house, circa 1940s

Looking south across Step-Out Area #1, soil removal, revegetation, 2009-2010

NECR Mine waste dump moved south and mine-water arroyo, dredged and filled (16'-25'), 2009-2010

Looking south across Northeast Church Rock Mine Site with residences in middle ground.

Looking southwest; RWPR in foreground, heading due west; western end of residential area in background.